



## MEETING MINUTES

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF MONO  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Regular Meetings: The First,  
Second, and Third Tuesday of  
each month

### Regular Meeting

County Courthouse,  
Bridgeport, CA 93517

**July 15, 2008**

9:00 AM Meeting Called to Order by Vice Chair Reid  
Chairwoman Bauer was absent due to family business.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor Hazard

### OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No one spoke.

### BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

#### Supervisor Reid reported on the following:

1. Regarding the wilderness bill, still concerned about access for people with disabilities; also the Bodie WSA is not resolved.
2. Met with IMAAA governing board. Approved 90-day emergency contracts pending resolution of other issues. Two Inyo County Board members showed Mono was not getting its fair share of funding.
3. Lee Vining RPAC happy about the paving done at the community center. Request from people in Mono City for another park. Told them it would be hard to establish another park in the Mono Basin at this time since there are already two parks. There may be potential for the community to lease land from BLM and build their own park.
4. Dennis Domaille, had an unfortunate accident and his recovery will be slow.
5. Saturday spent the night in Carson City; recommends going to Adele's.
6. Visited the Walker Basin Project in Yerington yesterday; they have listened to the stakeholders and are starting to make progress.

#### Supervisor Hunt reported on the following:

1. Sierra Nevada Conservancy recently posted their 2008-09 grants guidelines on their website. There is \$17 million available for local conservation projects. At the end of the month, there will be a web seminar to help people work through the grant process.
2. Received a letter from Dave Cox indicating that the department of transportation awarded \$58,475 to Mono County for rescue and extraction tools.
3. Attended the June Lake Triathlon event; it was a good event.

4. Update yesterday from Tom Bohigian about the wilderness bill. They met with Feinstein's office and everything went well; was meeting with Senate staffers to resolve last minute issues. Tomorrow the Senate hearing takes place; Bohigian is hopeful it will go through without problems. Still finalizing maps. The issues raised at Lee Vining hearing have been resolved.

**Supervisor Hazard reported on the following:**

1. Met with IMAAA on July 9<sup>th</sup>; there is still a \$200,000+ deficit and they are still working on resolving issues.
2. Worked at the Jazz Jubilee last weekend; the attendance was about the same as last year. Some businesses said their business seemed to be off by about 10%. Gas prices may hurt the festival next year.
3. Held Chalfant office hours last Friday. Constituents talked about a variety of issues. There has been no water in the park for the last three weeks; the community center is hot and the restrooms aren't functioning. Spoke with Evan Nikirk about the issue. It is possible that community centers without air conditioning can be funded using social services funds since the centers are used as emergency shelters.
4. Received a letter from the PUC regarding the Verizon fiber optic issue. They are in contact with Verizon cable to discuss the issue between Mammoth and Bishop to determine mandates. After discussions are finished, they will inform the Board.
5. Yesterday met with two members of the CSA in Crowley Lake to discuss landscaping of community center. Community will be updated this evening. Some of the grass in the ball field is turning brown.
6. Regarding the wilderness bill, the issues continue to be addressed. Agricultural constituents are concerned that their water rights are not adequately protected; they've asked for specific language to be included in the bill. This seems to be the only issue left for Hazard's constituents.
7. Celebrated 29<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

**Supervisor Farnetti reported on the following:**

1. Contacted by a member of a nonprofit about a County fee charged for a food booth. Apparently the Board approved a resolution in 1999 authorizing the ability to charge for a food booth, but was not instituted by staff for nonprofits. The item needs to be agendized for Board discussion.
2. Email from Mammoth Mountain regarding Horizon Air; service is expected to start on December 18<sup>th</sup>. There is a link on the Mammoth Mountain website to book a flight. This service will benefit the community.
3. Attended the Mammoth Lakes jazz festival; there were good crowds at the events, which featured over 30 bands. It was a good event for the community. The fireworks at the high school were outstanding.

**Chairwoman Bauer reported on the following:** No report

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**

- 1) CAO Report regarding Board Assignments (David Wilbrecht)  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Receive brief oral report by County Administrative Officer (CAO) regarding his activities.

**David Wilbrecht reported on the following:**

1. Following up with Housing Authority based on last week's meeting; will come back with recommendations and policy items.
2. Hard work to do with IMAAA.
3. Continuing status meetings and budget meetings with staff. Mark Magit did a lot of work on the personnel manual.

4. Been working with Public Works on approach to organizing projects.
5. Met in Crowley Lake yesterday about issues. Did not agendaize the item for tonight's meeting in order to keep it focused.
6. The building official is working on a variety of issues in the County. The new building codes will uncover deficiencies in the County. There is an issue in June Lake and the building owner is not certain whether to spend money to repair the problem. More compliance issues will arise.
7. There have been internet problems in the South County since last Friday. Those are supposedly repaired now.
8. Economic Development has been working on their website and hopes to go live on August 1<sup>st</sup>.
9. The VANIR report is ready; it is two volumes. Will meet this week to review.
10. Will be on vacation this Thursday for the next two weeks. Tom Wallace will be available.

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**M08-145** Approve minutes of the regular meeting of July 1, 2008, as corrected.  
***Farnetti/Hunt, 4-0; Bauer absent***

Supervisor Reid, Board Member Report: correct the spelling of Houder to ***Haueter***.

*Closed Session: 9:05—10:00 a.m.*

*Break: 10:00 a.m.*

*Reconvened: 10:05 a.m.*

*Break: 11:50—11:55 a.m.*

*Lunch Break: 12:00—1:00 p.m.*

*Reconvened: 1:00 p.m.*

CLOSED SESSION

COUNTY COUNSEL

- 3a) Conference with Legal Counsel - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION. Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54956.9. Number of potential cases: one.
- 3b) Conference with Legal Counsel - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION. Initiation of litigation pursuant to subdivision (c) of Government Code section 54956.9. Number of potential case: one.

***The Board had nothing to report from closed session.***

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/EMERGING ISSUES

**Jody Henning** reported on the following:

1. Will be running the tax roll next Monday, and it should be completed by the end of the

week; it was beneficial to extend the roll. A lot of progress is being made on the back log; will provide an update after the roll is closed. Could not complete the assessment of the golf course (Sierra Star) for this roll; it will be ready for the next one. Chris Hansen is here all week to work on the appraisal of Mammoth Mountain; hope to have a general idea of the number by the end of the week. Want time to review the appraisal prior to committing it to the roll. Will have a report from Hansen by mid August and will update the Board.

### CONSENT AGENDA

(All matters on the consent agenda are to be approved on one motion unless a board member requests separate action on a specific item.)

#### CLERK OF THE BOARD

- 4a) There are no items on the Consent Agenda.

### REGULAR AGENDA

#### CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED (INFORMATIONAL)

All items listed are available for review and are located in the Office of the Clerk of the Board

- 5a) Letter from Department of Boating and Waterways - Letter from Raynor Tsuneyoshi, California Department of Boating and Waterways, to the Mono County Board of Supervisors, reminding local agencies that they are required to submit proposed regulations, ordinances and other measures that regulate boating prior to their adoption and implementation.

Supervisor Hazard: The letter sounded a little confusing, as though a local agency must go through the department of boating prior to invoking an emergency action; this is not necessary.

***Vice Chair Reid acknowledged receipt of the correspondence.***

#### MENTAL HEALTH

- 6a) Approval of Annual Substance Abuse Crime Prevention Act Funding (**Ann Gimpel PhD**) - FY 2008-09 Substance Abuse Crime Prevention Act programmatic and spending plan for Mono County.

- M08-146 ACTION:** Adopt the Substance Abuse Crime Prevention Act (SACPA) programmatic and spending plan for Mono County for FY 08-09.  
***Hunt/Farnetti, 4-0; Bauer absent***

Ann Gimpel: The spending plan for 2008-09 is \$84,105, with no County match required; there is some money in the trust fund. Hoping to get more referrals from law enforcement (through the court); Gimpel meets annually with judges to let them know about the funding. There are many groups and programs invested in this funding so it is likely to continue. So far the money has been exempt from state reductions.

## C D BUILDING DIVISION

### **Additional Departments:** County Counsel

- 7a) New Building Codes Ordinance (**Rick McManis - Building Official**) - Consider and potentially introduce, read title, and waive further reading of proposed ordinance regarding new building codes, and direct clerk to schedule said ordinance for adoption at the Board's next regular meeting. Receive staff report. Provide any desired direction to staff.

**M08-147 ACTION:** Introduce, read title, and waive further reading of a proposed ordinance to repeal and adopt Chapter 15.04 of Mono County Code Title 15, and amend the previously adopted 2007 California Building Standards Code to include administrative provisions listed as Appendix, 2006 International Property Maintenance Code, 2006 Uniform Swimming Pool and Hot Tub Code, and provisions for defensible space and fire hazard reduction.  
**Farnetti/Hazard, 4-0; Bauer absent**

Rick McManis: It has been many years since this code was addressed; once adopted the codes will meet state law. McManis gave a PowerPoint presentation; highlighted the following:

- One of the biggest changes relates to fire codes.
- Outlined the purpose of building codes; intent is to establish minimum requirements to safeguard public health, safety and general welfare.
- Starting January 1, 2008, all new building permit applications in California were required to comply with the new 2007 California Building Codes.
- Included Uniform Swimming Pool, Spa, and Hot Tub code 2006 edition, and International Property Maintenance Code 2006 edition.
- The last code cycle was 7 years instead of 3 years, so California has been behind. This has caused complications, such as some codes being enforced with certain exceptions while other codes don't have exceptions; confusion with new terminology; extra burden on small or minor projects; and detailed requirements of building plans.
- Finding ways to interpret the new, more complex codes to help the public understand; have conducted presentations to help contractors and building officials understand the new codes.
- Planning elements have been included in the new building codes.
- These codes are law and specify the minimum standards, so no variances are allowed.
- Regarding building materials, most of those commonly used are being approved. The biggest change is the standard for windows (now required to have one tempered pane).
- Coordinated with County Counsel to bring plan checking back in-house. Also addressed the issue of appeals by including a section specifying appointment of a board of appeals. The board would not overturn minimum requirements, but would consider issues of interpretation.
- Regarding penalties for violations, giving people the opportunity to comply rather than issuing a stop-work notice.

McManis responded to Board questions:

- Regarding high-rise structure requirements, these codes can be used to limit height.
- The high-rise requirements and snow loads are increased from the state codes since Mono County falls within a case-specific study area.
- Code enforcement always affects someone; rural areas sometimes believe they don't need to comply. Considering needs of rural community.
- Will work to educate the public by providing information on the internet, doing outreach with the fire chiefs, attending RPAC meetings and doing a presentation. Goal is to help

- applicants where possible and not increase the burden.
- The section about inspections is not new, but timelines will be enforced to help ensure completion of projects.
- Regarding the term “international code,” at one point there were a variety of building codes that were consolidated into a nation-wide code. The ultimate goal is to have a truly international code.
- The distinction between ground snow load and flat roof snow load: Ground snow load refers to snow that blows up against buildings (impounded load); roof snow is different because it may blow off or slide off, and be impacted by the sun. There is a formula to convert ground snow load to flat roof loads.
- The building official can make recommendations for the Board of Appeals, or accept nominations from the Board of Supervisors. The issue of compensation is a policy question for the Board of Supervisors.
- Regarding early connection of utilities, it is County policy to make sure a project is completed and undergoes final inspection before approving utility connections.
- The County cannot lessen the requirements of state law.

Supervisor Hazard: These are major changes but will increase safety factors, and the penalty section will address concerns with outside vendors.

Supervisor Farnetti: It will be important to educate the public.

## COUNTY COUNSEL

### **Additional Departments:** Finance, Building

- 8a) Fire Mitigation Fees -- Public Hearing (**Marshall Rudolph**) - Conduct Public Hearing regarding proposed new or increased fire mitigation fees applicable to new development within the boundaries of the Chalfant Valley Fire Department (a community services district). Consider and potentially adopt proposed resolution establishing said fees. Receive staff report. Provide any desired direction to staff.

**R08-39 ACTION:** Adopt Resolution R08-39 establishing new or increased fire mitigation fees applicable to new development within the boundaries of the Chalfant Valley Fire Department.

***Hazard/Hunt, 4-0; Bauer absent***

Marshall Rudolph: County code imposes fire mitigation fees that are collected through the building permit process; the Board of Supervisors ultimately has to adopt and impose the fees. This particular fee is an increase for the Chalfant Fire Department; fees applicable to new development cannot pay for more than their fair share. There is a public hearing required for this issue and it was noticed in the paper.

Supervisor Farnetti: The new fee is a big jump; fire departments may need to consider their fees more often. Supervisor Hazard: This district was slow to develop so there was no need to actively review the fees until now.

Vice Chair Reid opened the public hearing. No one spoke. Vice Chair Reid closed the hearing.

**Additional Departments: Economic Development**

- 8b) Conway Ranch -- Letter to The Trust for Public Land (**Marshall Rudolph**) - Consider proposed letter from the Mono County Board of Supervisors to the Board of Directors of The Trust for Public Land.

**ACTION:** Authorize the Board Chair to sign said letter with such revisions (if any) as the Board may deem appropriate.

Vice Chair Reid: Chris Lizza (Lee Vining RPAC) asked the Board of Supervisors to table this item until the RPAC can discuss it.

**Additional Departments: Mental Health**

- 8c) Resolution re Student Loan Repayment Program (**Marshall Rudolph, Ann Gimpel**) - Consider and potentially adopt proposed resolution authorizing a student loan repayment program for mental health employees. Receive staff report. Provide any desired direction to staff.

**R08-40 ACTION:** Adopt Resolution R08-40 authorizing a student loan repayment program for mental health employees.

**Hunt/Hazard, 4-0; Bauer absent**

Marshall Rudolph: The Mental Health Services Act authorizes counties to adopt a student loan repayment program. Ann Gimpel included a program in her department that the Board approved in 2007. The state approved the training component and has provided guidance about how to implement it; the proposed resolution would more formally authorize the program to be implemented in the County. This has been reviewed by Local 39, who represents the employees involved; they are comfortable with it and understand it only applies to certain employees. This program is a recruitment and retention tool for people who have obtained a particular type of license to work in the Mental Health Department. The state requires an employee to work 12 months in order to be eligible; the County has added other requirements for eligibility relating to performance. This is a discretionary program and not an entitlement. An employee would sign the agreement, and the County would make the payments directly to the lender on a quarterly basis (towards principle only) for every quarter the person remains employed, up to \$10,000 per year maximum. Since this is considered income, the payments are taxable.

Ann Gimpel: The program would pay up to \$60,000 over six years. It is a good way to attract new clinicians. The state has allocated an additional \$225,000 to supplement the original \$225,000. The workforce education and training is one component; this funding also supports the transitional housing program and wellness centers. The 2008-09 budget will include a component to Community Services and Support that will support young people (a school counselor). There are currently two employees who qualify for the loan repayment program.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

- 9a) Resolution Approving An Employment Contract With Mark Magit (**Robert Garret**) - Consider and potentially adopt proposed resolution [R08\_/approving an employment agreement with Mark Magit and prescribing the compensation, appointment, and conditions of said employment. Receive staff report. Provide any desired direction to staff. (Note: Mr. Magit is currently employed as an

Assistant County Counsel, and the proposed agreement would continue such employment.)

- R08-41**      **ACTION:** Adopt Resolution R08-41 approving an employment agreement with Mark Magit, and prescribing the compensation, appointment, and conditions of said employment.

***Hazard/Hunt, 4-0; Bauer absent***

Robert Garret: Magit worked in Mono County 20 years ago as a deputy DA; he has been assistant county counsel for the last three years. The breadth of his legal service is amazing. Garrett recommended renewal of the three-year contract. The contract does not mention the 401 or 457 plans because Magit could still be eligible for the retiree health benefit.

- 9b)      Resolution Approving An Employment Contract With Stacey Westerlund (**Robert Garret**) - Consider and potentially adopt proposed resolution [R08\_/approving an employment agreement with Stacey Westerlund and prescribing the compensation, appointment, and conditions of said employment. Receive staff report. Provide any desired direction to staff. (Note: Ms. Westerlund is currently employed as a Payroll Manager, and the proposed employment agreement would continue such employment.)

- R08-42**      **ACTION:** Adopt Resolution R08-42 approving an employment agreement with Stacey Westerlund, and prescribing the compensation, appointment, and conditions of said employment.

***Hunt/Hazard, 4-0; Bauer absent***

Robert Garret: Westerlund has done an excellent job as payroll manager. Garrett recommended renewal of the contract. The salary for each fiscal year includes benefits; he projected future years' salary as accurately as possible.

- 9c)      Resolution Approving Employment Contract With Rita Sherman (**Robert Garret**) - Consider and potentially adopt proposed resolution R08\_/approving an employment contract with Rita Sherman and prescribing the compensation, appointment, and conditions of said employment. Receive staff report. Provide any desired direction to staff. (Note: Ms. Sherman is currently employed as the Deputy County Administrative Officer, Risk Management and Training, and the proposed agreement would continue such employment.)

- R08-43**      **ACTION:** Adopt Resolution R08-43 approving an employment agreement with Rita Sherman, and prescribing the compensation, appointment, and conditions of said employment.

***Farnetti/Hunt, 4-0; Bauer absent***

Robert Garret: Rita Sherman has many years of service to Mono County, and has been valuable in the risk management program. He recommended Board approval.



## ELECTIONS

- 10a) Election Equipment (**Lynda Roberts**) - Election equipment purchase of two Insight voting machines to be used for backup purposes.

**M08-148** **ACTION:** Approve purchase of two additional Insight (paper ballot) voting machines.

**Hazard/Hunt, 4-0; Bauer absent**

Lynda Roberts: This equipment has been included in the 2008-09 election budget. The equipment will be used for back-up purposes. Asking for early approval so the equipment can be ordered and delivered in time for the November election.

## FINANCE

- 11a) Audit Services Contract (**Brian Muir**) - Approve contract with Gallina LLP, Certified Public Accountants for audit services for fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, 2010, and 2011.

**M08-149** **ACTION:** Approve County entry into contract with Gallina LLP, Certified Public Accountants for audit services for fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, 2010, and 2011. Authorize Chair to sign said contract on behalf of the County.

**Hazard/Farnetti, 4-0; Bauer absent**

Brian Muir: Asking for Board approval of a contract with Gallina, CPA firm; their government accounting and auditing of counties is a highly specialized area. They audit most of the small and medium sized counties in California, and the firm is currently Mono County's auditor. Prices of audits have increased, but because of Government Accounting Standards Board's requirements, the work has increased. The cost to Mono County is a little lower than other counties because of how the County conducts an audit—it takes less time. Gallina does a good job. Each year they determine the areas to emphasize, which changes year to year so they have different people looking at different things. Muir recommended approval.

Supervisor Farnetti: Agree that it is a good idea to rotate the audit teams.

## AMBULANCE PARAMEDICS

### **Additional Departments:** Community Development

- 12a) Adoption of Defensible Space and Fire Hazard Reduction Ordinance (**Mark Mikulicich**) - Consider and potentially introduce, read title, and waive further reading of proposed ordinance creating Chapter 7.22 of the Mono County Code to provide local enforcement of the defensible space requirements set forth in state law; find that the adoption of this ordinance is exempt from CEQA pursuant to 14 CCR 15304(i); and direct clerk to schedule said ordinance for adoption at the Board's next regular meeting. Receive staff report. Provide any desired direction to staff.

**M08-150** **ACTION:** Introduce, read title, and waive further reading of proposed ordinance creating Chapter 7.22 of the Mono County Code to provide local enforcement of the defensible space requirements set forth in state law; find that the adoption

of this ordinance is exempt from CEQA pursuant to 14 CCR 15304(i); and direct clerk to schedule said ordinance for adoption at the Board's next regular meeting.

***Hunt/Farnetti, 4-0; Bauer absent***

Mark Mikulicich: Because of the rural nature of Mono County, towns are surrounded by wild land; it is reasonable to take measures that will minimize the threat of fire to structures. The new building codes and defensible space ordinance help protect structures from intense heat generated by fires. In order to supplement the state law and provide local education and enforcement, Mikulicich recommended adoption of the proposed defensible space ordinance. This will be an effective tool to increase fire safety, and is supported by the Mono County Fire Chiefs Association.

Supervisor Hunt: This should be considered an education tool. How will this be enforced? Mikulicich: Will start within the special districts, and will be using the building code process outside of districts. Mikulicich's department will follow up after a couple of months to make public contact and educate the public about defensible space. The department wants to make this an educational/recommendation process. Enforcement will be done by the County code enforcement office.

Supervisor Farnetti: Is this codifying CalFire requirements? Mark Magit: Yes, however, the primary purpose is to enforce locally and educate people and not wait for CalFire. The proposed ordinance allows the County to approach owners of vacant property and ask them to remove brush that poses a fire hazard to structures on adjacent parcels.

Supervisor Hazard: Are issues in Paradise and Swall Meadows regarding the deer migration resolved? Magit: There is no provision in state law for wildlife corridors. The County added an exception section to include a code about migration corridors. There is a process to bring knowledgeable people together to resolve questions about preserving corridors while providing defensible space. All new subdivisions, or use permits, can have migration corridors specified and building envelopes defined to allow for defensible space. Mikulicich: An ordinance that can be enforced locally will allow the County to refine the process and manage the issues better. Marshall Rudolph: The proposed ordinance gives authority for enforcement but not the duty; the County retains discretion over enforcement.

Supervisor Reid: If passed, it will be incumbent upon County personnel to inform the public. Mikulicich: Having a local ordinance allows parties to find common ground in solving problems, such as retaining vegetation for the deer migration corridors. Scott Burns: The law exists today and CalFire could enforce it, so the proposed ordinance is not changing the law.

Patty Heinrich: Does this apply to the forest service? Magit: local agencies cannot regulate a federal agency, however, if there are dangerous conditions the County could work with the agency to clean up debris.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

- 13a) **Contract Award for Mountain Gate Fishing Access Phase 1 (Kelly Garcia) -**  
Consider and potentially approve County entry into proposed contract with the lowest responsible bidder pertaining to Phase 1 of the Mountain Gate Fishing Access Project, and authorize the Director of Public Works to execute said contract on behalf of the County. Receive staff report. Provide any desired direction to staff.

- M08-151**      **ACTION:** Based on staff report concerning bids received in response to solicitation for bids, bid protests received (if any), and responsibility of the apparent low bidder: 1) Acknowledge receipt of a single bid on the Mountain Gate Phase 1 project from White Rock Construction, in the amount of \$124,585, which exceeds available funding. 2) Reject all bids received on the Mountain Gate Phase 1 project and direct the Department of Public Works to restructure and rebid the project.  
***Farnetti/Hunt, 4-0; Bauer absent***

Kelly Garcia distributed an updated staff report based on bids received last week; only received one bid. The bid exceeds amount of CDBG funding; would like to restructure the bid. Can save money by reducing the road embankment. New bid would include parking lot, walkway to handicap restroom, and entrance to site. Asked the Board to acknowledge receipt of bid, reject it, and authorize Public Works to rebid.

**Additional Departments:** Community Development

- 13b)      Grading Ordinance Revision (**Evan Nikirk**) - Consider proposed ordinance revising Chapter 13.08 of the Mono County Code to allow an exemption from grading permit requirements when clearing land for defensible space purposes. Receive staff report regarding said ordinance and associated CEQA documents and fee issues.

- M08-152**      **ACTION:** 1) Adopt the attached Mitigated Negative Declaration and mitigation monitoring program, finding on the basis of the whole record, including comments received, that it reflects Mono County's independent judgment and analysis, and that there is no substantial evidence the project will have a significant effect on the environment. 2) Introduce, read title, and waive further reading of proposed ordinance entitled, "An Ordinance of the Mono County Board of Supervisors Amending Chapter 13.08 of the Mono County Code to Create an Exemption from Grading Permit Requirements for Land Clearing Activities Within Specified Distances of Occupied or Habitable Buildings or Structures and Exempting Certain Land Clearing Activities from the Payment of Fees." 3) Direct the Clerk of the Board, with the assistance of County Counsel, to prepare a summary of the proposed ordinance for publication pursuant to Government Code section 25124. 4) Direct the Clerk of the Board to schedule the proposed ordinance for adoption at the Board's next regularly-scheduled meeting. 5) Strike out the words "occupied" and "habitable".  
***Farnetti/Hazard, 4-0; Bauer absent***

Evan Nikirk: This item is the outcome of Board discussions last year, particularly about the Walker area. The purpose of the ordinance is to exempt land-clearing activities from a grading permit if it is done for defensible space purposes following certain criteria. CalFire regulations require clearing of dead and dying vegetation, and pruning and selective removal of live vegetation. Planning worked with consultants to develop an environmental statement. The main comment received was that the Board consider exemption of any structure, not just habitable structures. This proposal gives Public Works the authority to waive the fees if grading is done as a result of a disaster or other emergency.

Supervisor Reid: What is the process for exemption? Nikirk: Making the public aware, through

RPACs, that the exemption is available. Once educated, the public will not need to come to Public Works if their site meets the criteria for clearing. Reid: agreed with the RPAC suggestion that the exemption apply to all structures, not just dwellings. The other Board members agreed. The ordinance was revised accordingly. Nikirk: will add a note on the public handout specifying what to do if someone comes across an archeological site.

- 13c) Construction Project Workshop (**Evan Nikirk and Kelly Garcia**) - Conduct workshop regarding County facility construction projects scheduled for completion during the summer 2008 season. Discuss funded near-term capital improvement projects and consider prioritizing same. Provide any desired direction to staff.

**ACTION:** Provide any desired direction to staff.

Evan Nikirk: Would like to schedule this as a regular monthly item before the Board in order to provide the Board with information about progress on projects, and allow the Board to add or subtract projects. Nikirk reviewed the list of recently completed projects and status of current projects. In order to move projects forward in a more timely fashion, will be contracting for some of the work to be done. The goal is to award contracts in August. Kelly Garcia: Regarding the contracts, funding is available. Will negotiate directly with local contractors since these are small projects.

Supervisor Farnetti: Would like to see the following projects scheduled and hire a contractor if necessary—Benton Crossing Landfill Water System, Crowley Lake and Lee Vining Backup Generators, and June Lake Community Center Site Improvements.

Supervisor Hunt asked if Public Works intends to complete the list of short-term projects this summer. Garcia said that is the goal.

Supervisor Reid referred to the near-term capital improvements list and asked about the Bridgeport Park restroom and Memorial Hall improvements. Garcia said Bridgeport Park is a transportation enhancement project. The Memorial Hall improvements are not entirely funded; the estimated cost is \$150,000, and the Board allocated \$75,000. Public Works is asking the CSA board to help fund this project.

Marshall Rudolph: Regarding CSA money, it is the County's money; however, CSA purposes are limited but there is a process for adding additional purposes to a CSA. A CSA can do anything a county can do as long as it is at a different level than what the county can do.

Supervisor Reid referred to the Mono Lake Cemetery and said it is in poor condition; the Board appropriated \$40,000 for this project. The cemetery well needs to be a higher priority. Garcia: Public Works received a proposal from a consultant to design the well, but their fee seemed high; they suggested redeveloping the spring as a source of water.

David Wilbrecht: Public Works developed this list to reflect what they can realistically accomplish with the current resources available, barring an unforeseen emergency. If the Board was to reprioritize or add projects, they either need to move other projects off the list or provide more funding. Wilbrecht suggested estimating the cost for the short-term projects to determine the need for funds. He also suggested using the following factors, in order, to prioritize projects: safety, legal requirements, preservation of the asset, public perception, and aesthetics. Public Works is making a commitment to accomplish projects. In some cases, projects could be given more time rather than changing their priority, to allow for other projects to be given a higher priority.

The Board supported moving quickly on contracting for completion of projects.

Wilbrecht suggested the following changes: 1) move the completion date out two months for the following projects: Bridgeport skateboard park landscaping and walks, Whitmore animal shelter painting and fence, Bridgeport animal shelter painting, and possibly June Lake tennis court fence repairs. 2) move the following projects to a higher priority, and add Mono Lake Cemetery: Benton Crossing landfill water system, Crowley Lake and Lee Vining backup generators, June Lake community center site improvements.

The Board agreed with Wilbrecht's approach.

Supervisor Reid: This list of projects gives the Board an overview that can be taken to the community; it is very informative in showing projects throughout the County. Supervisor Hazard suggested incorporating this idea into the budget session when prioritizing projects.

ADJOURN: 3:50 p.m.

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